



# California Public Utilities Commission

505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94102

## News Release

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **COMMISSIONS HOST COAL WORKSHOP IN PORTLAND MAY 24, 2006**

May 23, 2006 -- The utility Commissions of Oregon, Washington and California are teaming up to host a workshop Wednesday, May 24, 2006, at the Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel in Oregon to explore the use of advanced coal technologies for meeting electricity needs in the West.

“While coal is abundant we need to also be aware of the global warming impacts from using coal to generate energy in the West,” Oregon Public Utility Commission Chairman Lee Beyer said. “This workshop will explore the issue from a variety of perspectives.”

“This is a very important topic and I’m happy to see our Commissions coming together to discuss and encourage innovative technologies that will help meet our energy needs while protecting our environment,” said President Michael R. Peevey of the California Public Utilities Commission.

“We are all facing the reality of a carbon constrained future, and it is critical that regulatory agencies adapt their policies and planning for the future to incorporate this new reality,” said Commissioner Dian M. Grueneich of the California Public Utilities Commission. “Conventional fossil fuel generation plants could quickly become much more expensive to operate and we need to explore new technologies to control emissions. This workshop is an important step in developing our understanding of the next generation of fossil fuel plants.”

The workshop will cover:

- Clean energy policy initiatives in the west;
- Integrated Gasification Combined Cycle (IGCC) technology;
- Carbon dioxide capture and sequestration opportunities.
  - Identification and demonstration;

- Mechanics and economics;
- Monitoring and verification.

More information is available here:

[http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/static/energy/electric/climate+change/060524\\_coaltech.htm](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov/static/energy/electric/climate+change/060524_coaltech.htm)

and the agenda is below.

The meeting will not have teleconference or webcast capabilities, but an electronic transcript and presentations from the meeting will be posted on the Oregon Public Utilities Commission website ([www.puc.state.or.us](http://www.puc.state.or.us)) shortly after the meeting.

For more information on the PUC, please visit [www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov).

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### **Agenda**

#### **Advanced Coal Workshop for West Coast Commissions:**

#### ***IGCC Technology, CO<sub>2</sub> Sequestration and Policy Directions***

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May 24, 2006

**Sheraton Portland Airport Hotel - Mount Hood Ballroom**

(More information on next page)

**10:00 – 10:15 Welcome and Introductory Remarks**

**10:15 – 11:45 Policy Initiatives**

- Chairman Lee Beyer  
*Oregon Public Utility Commission*
- President Michael Peevey  
*California Public Utilities Commission*
- Commissioner Pat Oshie  
*Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission*
- Bill Keese  
*Co-chair, Clean and Diversified Electricity Advisory Committee*  
*Western Governors' Association*
- Panel discussion; Q&A

**11:45 – 1:00 Lunch Buffet** (at Sheraton, at own expense)

- 1:00 – 2:15    **IGCC Technology and Commercialization Status**
- Stu Dalton  
*Director for Generation, Electric Power Research Institute*
  - Eric Redman  
*Attorney, Heller Ehrman LLP*
  - Michael M. Degernes  
*Senior Credit Analyst, Aberdeen Asset Management*
  - Panel discussion; Q&A
- 2:15 – 2:30    **Break**
- 2:30 – 3:45    **CO<sub>2</sub> Capture and Sequestration Opportunities**
- Sally Benson  
*Carbon Sequestration Project Leader  
Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory*
  - Dr. Susan Capalbo  
*Director, Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership*
  - Charles Christopher  
*CO<sub>2</sub> Program Manager – Americas, BP Americas Inc.*
  - Panel discussion; Q&A
- 3:45 – 4:15    **Public Comment**
- 4:15 – 4:30    **Closing Remarks**

*Funding provided in part by the Energy Foundation.*